



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
STRIKE FIGHTER SQUADRON ELEVEN
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VIRGINIA BEACH VA 23460-2246

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18 Mar 15

From: Commander, Strike Fighter Squadron ELEVEN
To: Naval Historical Center, Attn: Aviation History,
805 Kidder Breese Street SE, Washington Navy Yard,
DC 20374-5060

Subj: 2014 ANNUAL COMMAND OPERATIONS REPORT

Ref: OPNAVINST 5750.12K

Encl: (1) Biography and Photo of CDR Joshua A. Sager,
Commanding Officer, VFA-11
(2) Biography and Photo of CDR Craig D. Bangor,
Executive Officer, VFA-11

I. Command Data:

- a. Command: Strike Fighter Squadron ELEVEN (VFA-11)
- b. UIC: 09560
- c. Commander: CDR Joshua A. Sager
- d. Date Assumed Command: 10 October 2013
- e. Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations:
 - (1) Naval Integrated Fire Control - Counter Air Detachment (NIFC-CA), Naval Air Station Key West, FL
 - (2) Air-to-Air Strike Fighter Advanced Readiness Program (SEARP), NAS Key West Detachment
 - (3) Flight Deck Certification, USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71)
 - (4) Fast Attack Craft / Fast Inshore Attack Craft (FAC/FIAC) Live Fire: Laser Joint Direct Attack Munition (LJDAM) Buddy Lase employment and the Fleet's first employment of the AGM-65E2 Laser Maverick (LMAV).
 - (5) Air-to-Surface SEARP, NAS Fallon Detachment

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(6) Point Mugu Missile Shoot: AGM-88 High Speed Anti-Radiation Missile (HARM) and AGM-154 Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW) Live Fire, Point Mugu, CA.

(7) Tailored Ships Training Availability (TSTA) / Group Sail, USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN-71)

(8) CVW-1 Air Wing Fallon

f. Permanent Location: NAS Oceana, VA

g. Immediate Superior in Command:

(1) Operational: Commander, Carrier Air Wing ONE (CVW-1)

(2) Administrative: Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic (CSFWL)

h. Names of Squadrons/Units assigned under your operational control: None

i. Type and number of aircraft assigned: 11 F/A-18F

j. Commands, Detachments, or Units deployed onboard or stationed aboard as tenant activities: None

k. Number of personnel assigned:

(1) Officers: 42

(2) Enlisted: 197

(3) Civilian: 0

l. Command Point of Contact:

(1) Name: LT Justin Stevens

(2) Job Title: Public Affairs Officer

(3) E-mail: (b) (6)

(4) Phone number: (b) (6)

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(5) Command Mailing Address:

UNIT VFA 11
FPO AE 09501-5758

2. Commander's Assessment: During 2014, the World Famous Red Rippers of Strike Fighter Squadron ELEVEN entered a strenuous Fleet Response Training Plan (F RTP) for their upcoming deployment in 2015. The F RTP trained, evaluated, and refined VFA-11's ability to meet the standard of operational readiness expected prior to answering our Nation's call. New challenges and arduous training evolutions demanded tactical proficiency, flexibility, adaptability, and logistical expertise. The entire squadron met the challenge with vigor and excellence, rising to the occasion at each stage, exceeding the standard.

Prior to starting the F RTP, the Red Rippers were involved in two Naval Integrated Fire Control-Counter Air (NIFC-CA) detachments. The first detachment to NAS Key West included training in multiple counter-air type missions directed by Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center (NSAWC) against multiple simulated threat platforms flown by VFC-111, VFC-12, and the Airborne Tactical Advantage Company. In addition, aircrew attended a weeklong detachment with other squadrons from CVW-1 to further refine techniques, tactics, and procedures for further Navy research and development.

The month of May marked the commencement of the Rippers' F RTP, beginning with Air-to-Air SFARP lectures and a subsequent detachment to NAS Key West, FL. Aircrew were subjected to numerous air-to-air scenarios against professional adversary squadrons. Strike Fighter Weapons School Atlantic instructors observed, evaluated, and sharpened the aircrew's execution of strike fighter tactics. Weeks later, the squadron would participate in the Air-to-Surface portion of SFARP training, this time detaching to NAS Fallon, NV for their operational evaluation. Aircrew participated in counter air tactics, self-escort strikes, and close air support missions, including Special Warfare integration.

The Rippers attained some impressive squadron and Fleet-level milestones in July with a FAC/FIAC live fire event. Two Red Ripper jets successfully employed the Fleet's first delivery of the AGM-65E2 LMAV air-to-surface missile against a simulated FAC/FIAC threat. Additionally, four Red Ripper aircrew

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flawlessly employed a GBU-54 LJDAM against a similar target using buddy lase tactics. Furthermore, four aircrew had a rare opportunity to participate in a live missile event at Point Mugu, CA. An AGM-88 HARM and the AGM-154 JSOW were employed effectively, giving the squadron valuable experience in mission planning and execution of rarely used weapon systems.

Onboard USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, CVW-1 embarked for the first time in two years for their Tailored Ships Training Availability (TSTA). VFA-11 was essential in preparation for TSTA when ten aircrew and a detachment of maintenance personnel assisted CVN 71 in attaining its flight deck certification, allowing crucial time for flight deck personnel to gain proficiency. With Carrier Strike Group TWELVE (CSG-12) and CVW-1 underway, the Red Rippers combined cyclic carrier operations with their tactical knowledge gleaned from the past several months. The Red Rippers distinguished themselves amongst the air wing as tactical professionals executing all strike fighter day and night missions, including air superiority, strike, maritime superiority, intercept and escort, Forward Air Control (Airborne), and Combat Search and Rescue.

Following that at-sea period, VFA-11 returned to NAS Fallon with the entirety of CVW-1 to hone their abilities in an array of mission sets of the F/A-18F Super Hornet. Aircrew took advantage of the ample opportunities to plan, lead, and execute coordinated large force strikes and dynamic close air support missions. The entire air wing, with dozens of aircraft and hundreds of ground personnel, integrated impressively amongst squadrons and across services with the South Carolina Air National Guard flying their F-16 Fighting Falcon. At the conclusion of Air Wing Fallon, the Rippers had proven themselves as an integral part of CVW-1 as the wing exceeded the norm in all evaluation metrics used by NSAWC.

As one of the Navy's oldest active flying fighter squadrons, the World Famous Red Rippers are steeped in tradition. Every squadron member down to the newest check-in understands the legacy of pride, professionalism, and excellence they strive to continually uphold. A banner hanging proudly in the hangar embodies VFA-11's team-oriented spirit; it rightly states, "Rippers Taking Care of Rippers Since 1927." Dedication, effective leadership, and a common vision have spurred the Rippers throughout the past year to meet their expectation of

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"delivering precise and lethal combat power, anywhere in the world, any time our country calls." "Here's to us...!"

3. Chronology:

2014-01-07	CDMCM Lawrence Barbrey turns over duties to CDMCM Christopher Bartley and retires
2014-01-19/26	NIFC-CA Detachment, NAS Key West, FL
2014-03-10/14	Training Detachment, St. Louis, MO
2014-05-12/16	Air-to-Air SFARP Lectures
2014-06-7/18	Air-to-Air SFARP Detachment, NAS Key West, FL
2014-07-15	Flight deck certification onboard USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71)
2014-07-17/18	FAC/FIAC Live Fire: LJDAM buddy lase employment and the fleet's first employment of the AGM-65E2 LMAV
2014-07-21/24	Air-to-Surface SFARP Lectures
2014-08-02/22	Air-to-Surface SFARP, NAS Fallon, NV
2014-08-23	Point Mugu Missile Shoot: AGM-88 HARM and AGM-154 JSOW Live Fire, Point Mugu, CA
2014-09-16 to 2014-10-10	TSTA / Group Sail
2014-10-22 to 2014-11-22	CVW-1 Air Wing Fallon, NAS Fallon, NV


J. A. SAGER

8/9/2012 - Present

COMMANDER JOSHUA A. SAGER

Commander Joshua Sager, a native of (b) (6) was raised in Stuart, Florida. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1995 where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Control Systems Engineering. He earned his Wings of Gold in August of 1997 in Kingsville, Texas and was selected to fly the FA-18 Hornet.



He then reported to NAS Cecil Field, Florida and The Gladiators of VFA-106 for training as an FA-18 pilot. Upon completion of the Fleet Replacement Squadron, he was assigned to The World Famous Golden Dragons of VFA-192 in Atsugi, Japan, completing three deployments with Carrier Air Wing FIVE (CVW-5) onboard USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63). While assigned to The World Famous Golden Dragons, he participated in Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and ENDURING FREEDOM as well as Exercise FOAL EAGLE.

Following his first fleet tour, Commander Sager served as an Instructor Pilot and Landing Signals Officer with The Gladiators of VFA-106 at NAS Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia, serving as the East Coast FA-18 A-D NATOPS Model Manager and Strike Phase Standardization Officer. Following instructor duty, he served with Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN (CVW-17) as Air Wing Safety Officer and CAG Landing Signals Officer, deployed onboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67). While assigned to CVW-17, he deployed in 2004 and flew missions in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM and Operation PHANTOM FURY. In 2006, Commander Sager was assigned to The Sunliners as a Department Head, serving as the Safety Officer, Administrative Officer, Operations Officer and Maintenance Officer. During this tour, he completed one deployment onboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73), supporting Partnership of the Americas and two deployments onboard USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

Once finished with his Department Head tour, Commander Sager attended the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island where he graduated with distinction, earning a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Following a 14-month "combat tour" in Boston, Massachusetts, Commander Sager was found to be cancer-free and returned to a fully deployable flight duty status.

Commander Sager has accumulated over 3,000 flight hours and nearly 800 carrier arrested landings. His personal decorations include the Strike/Flight Air Medal (two awards), Navy Commendation Medal (five awards, one with Combat "V"), the Navy Achievement Medal and numerous campaign, service and unit awards. He was also selected as the VFA-106 Instructor Pilot of the Year, Naval Air Forces Atlantic Landing Signals Officer of the Year and was the recipient of the Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic Mike Longardt Award for Leadership.

Following service as Executive Officer of the VFA-106 Gladiators, Commander Sager proudly reported to The Red Rippers as Executive Officer in August 2012, flying missions in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM as part of the USS ENTERPRISE's final deployment and taking Command in October 2013.

Commander Sager lives in Virginia Beach, Virginia with his lovely wife, son and daughter.

Enclosure (1)

10/7/2013 - Present

COMMANDER CRAIG D. BANGOR

Commander Craig Bangor, a native of (b) (6) earned his Naval Commission from the United States Naval Academy in 1996. He was awarded a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering with merit from the Naval Academy and later that year was awarded a Master of Engineering degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park. He earned his Wings of Gold in June of 1998 at Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL and was selected to fly the F-14 Tomcat.



In July 1998 CDR Bangor reported to the Grim Reapers of VF-101, stationed aboard NAS Oceana, Virginia, for training as an F-14B Radar Intercept Officer. Upon completion of the Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) syllabus, he was assigned to the World Famous Red Rippers of VF-11, deploying twice with Carrier Air Wing SEVEN onboard USS EISENHOWER (CVN 69) and USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67). While assigned to VF-11, he participated in Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, NOBLE EAGLE, and ENDURING FREEDOM and was designated a Forward Air Controller (Airborne).

Following his first fleet tour, Commander Bangor transitioned to the F/A-18F Super Hornet and served as an Instructor Weapon Systems Officer with the Flying Eagles of VFA-122 at NAS Lemoore, CA. He was then selected to attend the Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) at NAS Fallon, NV and move back to NAS Oceana as part of the instructor cadre that established the East Coast Super Hornet FRS under the Gladiators of VFA-106.

Following instructor duty, he served with Carrier Air Wing ONE (CVW-1) as Air Wing Strike and Air Operations Officer deployed onboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65). While assigned to CVW-1, he deployed twice supporting Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In November 2007, Commander Bangor was assigned to The Swordsmen of VFA-32 as a Department Head, serving as the Safety, Administrative, Operations, and Maintenance Officer. During this tour, he deployed onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75), supporting Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. In addition, he completed the United States Naval War College, College of Distance Education's Command and Staff program, earning his Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) Phase I education.

After his Department Head tour, Commander Bangor attended the Joint & Combined Warfighting School, Joint Forces Staff College, earning his JPME Phase II education. He then reported to United States Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) in Norfolk, VA and served as an action officer and Deputy Director, J68. Upon USJFCOM disestablishment, he reported as Operations Planner to the Joint Planning Support Element, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, United States Transportation Command. Commander Bangor proudly reported to The Red Rippers as Executive Officer in October 2013.

Commander Bangor has accumulated over 2,500 flight hours and more than 500 carrier arrested landings. His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Strike/Flight Air Medal (four awards), Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), the Navy Achievement Medal (three awards), and other campaign, service, and unit awards.

Commander Bangor's service is made possible by the loving support of his family

Enclosure (2)